

that come before us. And at this point, because it is a rather substantive amendment, I would ask the Chair its opinion on whether it would require 25 votes of the Legislature.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Sorry, Senator, would you repeat that, please.

SENATOR ELMER: Since this resolution is substantive in nature and directs an agency of the Department of Water Resources in the State of Nebraska to do certain things, is it the opinion of the Chair that it would require 25 votes?

PRESIDENT ROBAK: It requires 25 votes upon the request of any member, Senator.

SENATOR ELMER: I would so request.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: It is...we will require 25 votes.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Madam President. This resolution has to do with the Republican River Compact that was entered into between Kansas, Colorado and Nebraska in the early 1940s. And the way it was drafted it's rather difficult to understand, especially for me as a layman. I believe Senator Beutler can explain more fully about how in the world we will divide virgin water resources and how to try to determine how many acre feet in that for some sort of administrative system whereby the water can be administrated and regulated. This resolution says, Whereas, the State of Kansas seeks to protect its annual allocation of water for beneficial consumptive use under the existing Republican River Compact; and, Whereas, the State of Nebraska desires that the waters of the Republican River be managed so as to provide all parties to the compact with their annual allocations of water for beneficial consumption...consumptive use; and, Whereas, the State of Nebraska has found the existing Republican River Compact to be impossible to administer in a manner that is satisfactory to all parties to the compact; Now, therefore, be it resolved by the members of the Ninety-fourth Legislature of Nebraska, First Session: That the Nebraska Commissioner to the Republican River Compact, J. Michael Jess, in consultation with the natural resources districts whose boundaries lie within the Republican River basin, shall make appropriate resolutions at the annual June 8, 1995, Compact Commission meeting calling for negotiations to amend the Republican River Compact. Such amendments shall be designed to achieve the goal of establishing